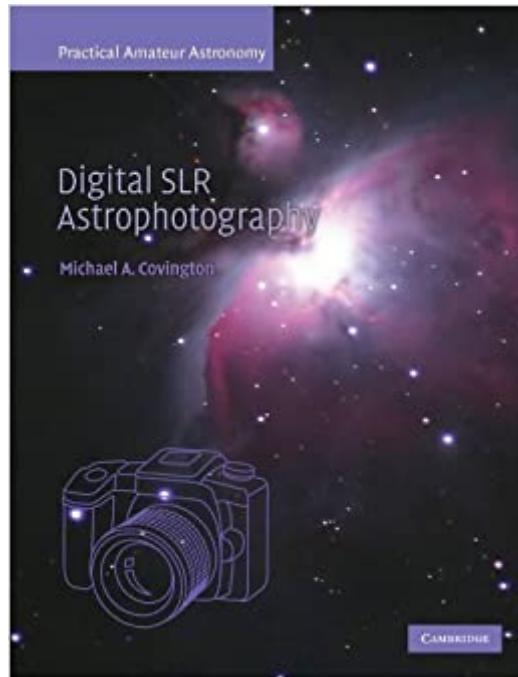




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Digital SLR Astrophotography (Practical Amateur Astronomy)



Synopsis

In the last few years, digital SLR cameras have taken the astrophotography world by storm. It is now easier to photograph the stars than ever before! They are compact and portable, flexible to adapt with different lenses and for telescope use, and above all DSLR cameras are easy and enjoyable to use. In this concise guide, experienced astrophotography expert Michael Covington outlines the simple, enduring basics that will enable you to get started, and help you get the most from your equipment. He covers a wide selection of equipment, simple and advanced projects, technical considerations and image processing techniques. Unlike other astrophotography books, this one focuses specifically on DSLR cameras, not astronomical CCDs, non-DSLR digital cameras, or film. This guide is ideal for astrophotographers who wish to develop their skills using DSLR cameras and as a friendly introduction to amateur astronomers or photographers curious about photographing the night sky.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

"...a great "how-to" manual as well as an excellent reference text. If you are serious about astrophotography and are looking for something which will give you a stronger theoretical background on many of the related topics (optics, scope construction, digital signal processing), then you need to make sure you have a copy of Covington's book within easy reach." Wan Chi Lau'... Covington has put a lot of effort into this work and it is very comprehensive and well written.'

Astronomy Now' It is a book that could get an amateur from being a complete astrophotography novice to an advanced DSLR imager ... For someone starting out on the road to DSLR astro-imaging it is well worth having.' Astronomy Now'... so ideal for astrophotographers ...' Spaceflight' Having used Michael Covington's earlier book, Astrophotography for the Amateur, I was interested to find out whether digital SLR was up to the same standard. I am pleased to report that it is ... Whilst I have been using a Canon 300D for some time, I found this book to be very useful [to] solve some of the difficulties I was having, and can thoroughly recommend this book. it is a valuable addition to the astro-imagers bookshelf.' F.A.S. Newsletter' You never stop learning about this vast topic, so it's great when a book comes along that's loaded with tips to take your imaging further. ... Covington conveys the information in such a relaxed style that even the techie stuff is pleasant to read. Everything about DSLRs you can think of is covered here and the text is complemented by clear and informative line drawings and black and white photos. Illustrations showing you how to couple a camera and a telescope are particularly good and very helpful for beginners. The text is littered with commonsense practical advice and useful tips ... every DLSR astrophotographer should have a copy of this great book.' BBC Sky at Night "...an excellent overview of what every digital photographer needs to know before heading into the field to shoot the starry sky. By carefully avoiding camera-specific details, the text will long remain relevant." --Sky & Telescope

Designed for use by busy professionals who need quick answers, The Stroke Book is a concise and practical reference for anyone involved in managing critically ill cerebrovascular patients. Contributors from leading stroke centers cover a wide range of common conditions and provide focused protocols for assessing and treating patients in the emergency room, intensive care unit, or on the hospital floor.

The book is outdated and overpriced. While naturally the field of astrophotography is like all electronics advancing in leaps and bounds (it seems like no sooner do you order and receive a new piece of equipment and it has already been replaced), the book is written with the then current technology without any awareness of how technology will improve. Case and point in the end of the book when it touches on non-SLR cameras the opening line comes across as dismissive outlining the flaws with using non-SLR with no hint of how non-SLR cameras could improve. Oddly enough a lot of the things that one could find interesting to read and learn about are brushed over with 'covered in my previous book'. The author flat out assumes that the reader owns, has read, and has available at hand the other book to just be able to open to the specific page and continue learning

what they want to know. The impression left is one of a pompous a** who is more interested in just selling his product than actually teaching or explaining. The one part of the book that probably excels is the one part that most people are likely to not care about: technical DETAILED calculations. The author is obviously a student of photography from the film era when it was often necessary to perform detailed calculations to ensure the absolute correct exposure as the cost of trial and error often proves exceedingly great in time (shooting and then developing) and money (film). Chances are most people looking for this book or one similar to it are just starting out and are a child of the digital age. With digital cameras you learn more by the trial and error method of playing around with the settings and seeing the difference. I am one with a pretty good mathematical ability and I often found myself just glazing over the text. I can easily see someone who cringes at the word math wanting to throw the book across the room (something that could prove catastrophic reading on a kindle). Worst of all the author offers no guidance over the choice of equipment beyond the basic EQ good AZ bad. There is no touch on the different levels of equipment that one can get or even a detailed explanation of what he uses and the good and bad of his setup. Who knows maybe he covered equipment in his first book... Overall one is left with a feeling that they spent a considerable amount of money (25\$ for kindle book) and got practically nothing to show for it. I thought for sure that for 25\$ I would certainly find a lot of valuable information but in the end I learned and enjoyed less material from this book than I did from similar books which I purchased for 10\$. Final words, DO NOT BUY THIS BOOK. I am not endorsing a particular author but there are better books out there with more useful information and cost less money.

I notice the other reviews, but I think the negative ones expect too much. This is not a detailed reference work for the advanced imager but a beginning book that will get you for 0-90 mph right away. I have done planetary and solar webcam imaging and beginning astrophotography with Canon DSLR (Milky Way, Aurora) and been confused by the amount of information available. Michael has presented a concise "how-to" that incorporates all of the specific actions required for DSLR and the underlying technical reasons for them. He also includes some asides that are important, but you will not find in purely technical reports. I was able to scan it in about an hour and it corroborated and enhanced what I had learned on my own. This book would have saved me time and anxiety and I would have had better early results if I had read it first. Again - not a reference for advanced imager, but a solid how-to for beginning to intermediate DSLR astrophotography. Highly recommended for style and content.

This is a useful book for answering a lot of questions which occur to the neophyte astrophotographer. I recommend it without reservation.

This book does a very good job of covering the fundamentals of amateur astrophotography. The concepts presented are sound, but the text does not present much mathematical detail, if you want to build spreadsheet models, etc. it does point you toward the appropriate sources for such data. Covers DSLR concepts and application well. If you're familiar with the film world, this is a great bridge into using digital tools. Some camera and software references are dated (not surprising in such a fast evolving area) but you will learn what questions to ask in further researching each topic. Be prepared to do much outside research after reading this book. Pay attention to the authors suggested web resources (esp. The books update page and links), and use them often. A little pricey, considering how much work is required outside of the text, but a good overall guide to the tools and techniques required.

Informative book but like all things dealing with technology (digital cameras/computer software) it's aged over the years. Plus, for the money this softcover book costs, I would've expected it to have colour photo's. It still has a lot of good information in it though.

Great book! Must have for amateur astrophotographers!

This is a great book, it provided me with very useful information on the subject of Astrophotography. In just two weeks time I have managed to take some breath taking shots of Orion Nebula, the Double Cluster and moon plus Jupiter as well. For my first time in over ten years I was able to take pictures with my new Canon T3i DSLR and I did great, this book is a must have if you are looking in to taking or getting in too Astrophotography pictures-A+.

For portraits of the cosmos and of planets, star clusters, galaxies and so on, this book helps anyone learn how to make your stunning photos into VERY stunning photos from now on!

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